

LIBRARY

Borough of Weston-super-Mare



---

Annual Report  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
FOR THE YEAR  
1945

---

including the  
Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and  
the Meteorological Report.



# Borough of Weston - super - Mare

---

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1944-45.**

Chairman : Councillor W. B. CRAIG.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor MRS. D. A. WHEELER.

Alderman B. T. BUTTER	Councillor V. W. ALLEN, J.P.
Alderman P. E. CULLING	Councillor A. J. HEYBYRNE
Alderman R. HOSKEN	Councillor A. M. CRIDDLE
Alderman J. G. WESTERN	Councillor T. W. R. PROCTER
Councillor Mrs. M. BROWN	

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor G. WOOD, J.P..

## **Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, 1944-45.**

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. D. A. WHEELER.

All Members of the Public Health Committee, with the following co-opted ladies :—

MRS. M. T. PAGE (Vice-Chairman)	MRS. A. J. HEYBYRNE
MRS. J. L. EDMUNDS	MRS. M. E. LUCAS
Mrs. F. G. NEWBERRY	MRS. A. MACFARLANE

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, SUPERINTENDENT OF ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND BOROUGH MATERNITY HOSPITAL AND BOROUGH METEOROLOGIST.

CYRIL G. EASTWOOD, M.D., CH.B., B.SC., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER :

M. GROLMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

H. W. BLADON, F.S.I.A., cert.R.S.I.  
(until 2nd July, 1945).

I. A. STEPHENSON, cert. R.S.I. & S.I.J.B., MEAT & FOODS  
cert.R.S.I., (From 2nd July, 1945).

ABATTOIR SUPERINTENDENT AND SANITARY INSPECTOR :

I. A. STEPHENSON, cert.R.S.I., & S.I.J.B., MEAT & FOODS  
cert.R.S.I., (Until 1st July, 1945).

W. W. WHITE, cert.R.S.I. & S.I.J.B. EXAM., MEAT & FOODS  
cert.R.S.I., cert. INST. OF PUBLIC CLEANSING (salvage), cert.  
LONDON CITY & GUILDS (Plumbing), cert. RUTHERFORD  
COLLEGE (Building Construction), (From 2nd July, 1945.)

SANITARY INSPECTORS :

C. E. URCH, cert.R.S.I., MEAT & FOODS cert.R.S.I.

W. W. WHITE, cert.R.S.I. & S.I.J.B. EXAM., MEAT & FOODS  
cert.R.S.I., cert. INST. OF PUBLIC CLEANSING (salvage), cert.  
LONDON CITY & GUILDS (Plumbing), cert. RUTHERFORD  
COLLEGE (Building Construction), (Until 1st July, 1945).

G. M. DOUGLAS, cert. R.S.A.S., cert. SANITARY SCIENCE,  
cert. BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, cert. MEAT & FOODS.

(From 3rd September, 1945).

SENIOR HEALTH VISITOR :

MISS E. SWIFT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

HEALTH VISITORS :

MISS G. M. HARVEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.cert.

MISS M. HEAFEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
(Seconded to U.N.R.R.A.).

MISS B. M. WEBBER, S.C.M., L.C.A.T.M.

MISS K. HALSTEAD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
(Until 27th January, 1945.)

MISS E. MOTE (from 28th August, 1945).

MATRONS :

Isolation Hospital : MISS W. M. DAVIS, S.R.N., R.F.N.

Borough Maternity Hospital : MISS I. M. GOVIER, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Glenelg Sick Bay and Emergency Isolation Hospital :  
MRS. M. C. McCLELLAND, S.R.N.

Tralee Sick Bay : MISS H. M. WEAKLEY.

Neva Road Nursery : MRS. M. M. MILLER, S.R.N.

Beaconsfield Road Nursery : MISS E. HENDRY, R.F.N.  
(until 21st September, 1945).

SUPERINTENDENT OF NURSERIES : MISS M. A. O'BRIEN.

WARDENS :

Neva Road Nursery : MRS. J. MIDDLE.  
(until 29th September, 1945).

MRS. A. D. BAKER (from 1st OCTOBER, 1945).

Beaconsfield Road Nursery : MISS L. GOLDSMITH.

Good Shepherd Nursery : MRS. P. SHACKLEFORD.  
(until 29th June, 1945)

MISS E. YOUNG (from 3rd July, 1945)

Milton Hill Nursery : MISS E. M. WEEKS.

CHIEF CLERK : MISS D. B. POWELL

SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

MISS E. NICHOLLS.

NURSING STAFF : 50.

CLERICAL, DOMESTIC AND MISCELLANEOUS : 40.



THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH,  
THE TOWN HALL,  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF  
THE BOROUGH OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my fifth Annual Report. The continuing paper shortage necessitates the brief Report which has been presented during each of the war years, but, possibly, next year it will be practicable for me to submit a more detailed Report, more attractive in form and informative in contents, giving a clearer picture of the activities of my Department during the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CYRIL G. EASTWOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

## Statistical Summary, 1945.

AREA (including foreshore)      ...      ...      ...      7,006 Acres

POPULATION :

1931 census	...	...	...	...	...	31,706
Registrar-General's estimate for 1945	...	...	...	...	...	37,470

LIVE BIRTHS :				Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	270	273	543
Illegitimate	...	...	...	47	28	75
				317	301	618

BIRTH RATE : 16.5.

STILL BIRTHS :				Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	7	6	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	1	3
				9	7	16

STILL BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 total births) : 25.2

DEATHS :	Male.	Female.	Total.
	253	340	593
DEATH RATE : 15·8.			
PUERPERAL DEATHS :			
From puerperal sepsis ...	...	...	...
From other maternal causes	...	...	...
			1
			—
	Total	...	...
			1
			==
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths of infants under one year of age) :			
Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	30·7
Rate for all legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	34·1
Rate for all illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	nil
OTHER DEATHS :			
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	...	...	82
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	...	...	1

## I. Vital Statistics.

REGISTERED BIRTHS.—After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Register-General credited the Borough with 618 live births for 1945, 317 were males and 301 females. Of these 75 were illegitimate (47 males and 28 females). The registered number of still births was 16 (9 males and 7 females) of which number 2 males and 1 female were illegitimate.

The birth rate for 1945 was 16·5 per 1,000 of the population, which is lower than for last year (17·6) but higher than for the country as a whole (16·1).

DEATHS.—621 deaths were registered as having occurred in the Borough during the year. After deducting the deaths of 110 non-residents and adding the deaths of 82 normal residents which took place outside the Borough, the net total comes to 593 Weston deaths. Of these, 252 were males and 341 females.

The number of deaths in the four quarters of the year were :—First quarter 184, second quarter 145, third quarter 123 and fourth quarter 141.

The following tables show the causes of death and the sex and age distribution of deaths :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.					1945.	
					Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	...	...	Total	593	252	341
1	Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers	...			—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping cough	...	...	...	1	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...			7	7
7	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...		—	2
8	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—
9	Influenza	...	...	...	—	1
10	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
11	Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
12	Acute infantile encephalitis	...	...		—	—
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus (M.), uterus (F.)	...	...	...	1	3
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...			7	9
15	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	—	7
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	26	29
17	Diabetes	...	...	...	2	3
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...		37	42
19	Heart disease	...	...	...	80	104
20	Other diseases of the circulatory system...				3	9
21	Bronchitis	...	...	...	10	22
22	Pneumonia	...	...	...	12	12
23	Other respiratory diseases	...	...		2	2
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...			5	2
25	Diarrhœa under 2 years	...	...		1	—
26	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	1
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	6	12
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	12	10
29	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...			—	1
30	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	—
31	Premature births	...	...	...	2	8
32	Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infantile diseases	...	...	...	4	2
33	Suicide	...	...	...	2	2
34	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	1	—
35	Other violent causes	...	...	...	3	4
36	All other causes	...	...	...	27	47
Special causes (included in No. 36 above)—						
	Small-pox	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year						
	Total	...			10	9
	Legitimate	...			10	9
	Illegitimate	...			—	—



# SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1945.

Ages at Death in Years.			Males	Females.	Total.
Under 1	...	...	10	9	19
1 to 9	...	...	2	5	7
10 to 24	...	...	5	3	8
25 to 44	...	...	9	18	27
45 to 64	...	...	64	48	112
65 to 69	...	...	32	37	69
			—122	—120	—242
70 to 74	...	...	46	56	102
75 to 79	...	...	38	58	96
80 to 84	...	...	33	56	89
85 to 89	...	...	13	30	43
90 to 94	...	...	1	17	18
95 to 99	...	...	—	3	3
			—131	—220	—351
			<u>253</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>593</u>

INFANT MORTALITY.—The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, registered during the year, was 19 (10 male and 9 female). These 19 deaths represent an infant mortality rate of 30·7.

INQUESTS.—Inquests held by the Coroner in the Borough during the year numbered 41, of which 23 were upon residents of Weston-super-Mare and 18 upon non-residents. The causes of death in respect of residents are set out in the following table :—

Causes of Death.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Natural Causes	...	...	10	5	15
Strangulation	...	...	—	—	—
Accidents : Falling Wall	...	...	1	—	1
Falls	...	...	—	1	1
Falls from height			—	—	—
By moving machinery			1	—	1
Drowning	...	...	—	—	—
Strangulation	...	...	—	—	—
Poisoning : Coal gas	...	...	—	1	1
Motor car fumes			—	—	—
Arsenic	...	...	—	—	—
During Operations	...	...	—	—	—
In Motor Vehicles	...	...	—	—	—
By Motor Vehicles	...	...	—	—	—
Suicide : Drowning	...	...	—	—	—
Hanging	...	...	—	—	—
Poisoning : Coal gas			1	2	3
„ Aspirin			1	—	1
Jumping from height			—	—	—
Found Drowned	...	...	—	—	—
			<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>23</u>



## II. General Health Services, etc.

The general services of the Department of Public Health were maintained throughout the year and various alterations and additions are noted under the appropriate headings throughout this Report. One or two matters follow in this section, however, which cannot be dealt with appropriately elsewhere.

HEALTH EDUCATION.—The display of posters and the distribution of leaflets on health educational matters continued throughout the year, but our efforts at instructing the public were augmented by the purchase of a 16 m.m. cinematograph apparatus enabling sound films to be shown. This was first used for a series of lectures, given under the auspices of the Central Council for Health Education during November and December, each lecture being illustrated by films, and judging by the attendance and interest shown, this promises to be a very useful and successful service.

CLEANSING STATION.—The problem of personal infestation is not serious in this Borough, but the Cleansing Station at the Isolation Hospital remains in operation. The numbers have declined as compared with the early war years, and it has not been necessary on any occasion to use compulsory powers to secure the cleansing of persons requiring it.

WATER SUPPLY.—At the request of the Minister of Health, some notes upon the water supply are included in this Report.

The supply during the year has been satisfactory both in regard to quality and quantity. Bacteriological Examinations have been made each week by qualified Public Analysts and on every occasion the condition of the water has been found to be entirely satisfactory. Periodic analyses have also been made of the Banwell Spring and the old Weston Well which is occasionally drawn upon, at the time of peak of demand, to augment the supply.

The water supplied to the consumers is of a high standard of purity, and the Chloramine system of treatment, carried out at the Waterworks in order to ensure this condition, has been efficiently maintained. The water appears to have no plumbo-solvent action.

All houses in the Borough have a piped supply with the exception of twelve cottages at Norton and six on Bleadon Hill. There are, however, 42 houses on Bleadon Hill with a piped supply from a separate small water undertaking which are not connected with the Corporation mains. No houses are supplied by means of stand-pipes.

The following is a typical analysis :—  
*Chemical Examination.*

(Values in parts per 100,000.)				
Reaction (pH value)	...	...	...	7.4
Chlorine (as chlorides)	...	...	...	1.3=NaCl 2.22
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	0.04
Sulphuric Acid (SO <sub>3</sub> )	...	...	...	1.37
Nitric Acid (N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	...	...	...	0.46
Nitrites	...	...	...	Faint trace
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.002
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate at 80°F.				
in 4 hours	...	...	...	0.02
in 15 minutes	...	...	...	0.003
Total Solids dried at 212°F.	...	...	...	25.3
Loss on ignition	...	...	...	5.4
Appearance of solids on heating	...	...	...	No change
Hardness—total	...	...	...	19.6
temporary	...	...	...	16.8
permanent	...	...	...	2.8
Heavy metals	...	...	...	Absent

*Bacteriological Examination.*

Total number of organisms growing on agar at 22°C.	...	...	...	1 per ml.
Ditto at blood heat	...	...	...	less than 1 per ml.
Number of coli-ærogenes bacteria per 100 ml.	...	...	...	None

*Analyst's Remarks.*—These results are satisfactory throughout. The water is free from any sign of pollution whether organic or inorganic and the bacteriological results are good. The water is almost sterile. We are of opinion that it is of a high degree of purity and quite suitable for all domestic purposes.

*Miscellaneous.*—The following statistics show the work carried out at the various institutions and centres attached to the Department, excluding those which are noted under other headings subsequently :—

Isolation Hospital : Admissions during 1945	...	...	127
Glenelg Sick Bay : Admissions during 1945	...	...	136
Glenelg Auxiliary Isolation Section : Admissions during 1945	...	...	33
Tralee Sick Bay : Admissions during 1945 (to August)			21
Baumont Sick Bay : Admissions during 1945	...		14
Cleansing Station : Patients treated during 1945	...		500
Minor Ailments' Clinic : Attendances during 1945, (includes 70 evacuees)	...	...	244

Tralee Sick Bay became redundant after the end of the war in Europe and was closed on September 30th, but all the other general health services were maintained throughout the year.

### III. Infectious Disease.

The following table sets out particulars of infectious disease occurring in the Borough during the year :—

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles ... ..	783	22	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	38	23	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	128	3	1
Pneumonia ... ..	36	12	24
Erysipelas ... ..	11	2	—
Dysentery ... ..	15	9	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	1	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	2	1
Diphtheria ... ..	2	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	3	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	—
Malaria ... ..	1	—	—
Hæmolytic Throat ... ..	—	2	—
Chickenpox ... ..	—	3	—
Threatened Abortion ... ..	—	1	—
Observation ... ..	—	10	—
Dysentery Contact ... ..	—	4	—
German Measles ... ..	—	2	—
Fibrositis ... ..	—	1	—
Mumps ... ..	—	3	—
Septic Abortion ... ..	—	1	—
Influenza ... ..	—	1	1
Diphtheria Contact ... ..	—	1	—
Encephalitis ... ..	—	1	—
Impetigo ... ..	—	4	—
Infantile Paralysis Contact ... ..	—	1	—
Vincent's Angina ... ..	—	2	—
Tonsilitis ... ..	—	1	—
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary ... ..	40	1	14
Non-pulmonary ... ..	7	—	2

Clement Dukes and others have described a disease having some of the characteristics of measles, and some of scarlet fever, to which the name “ fourth disease ” has been applied. Others have doubted the existence of any such specific disease, believing that cases of alleged fourth disease are nothing more than an atypical form of measles or scarlet fever. During 1945, there was a small outbreak of what might be called fourth disease (whatever its exact nature may be) at a residential nursery in the town. 19 children were involved but none were seriously ill, nor were there any after effects.



The first sign of illness was a blotchy, red rash, which quickly spread over the face and the body, and was accompanied by a rise in temperature (in some cases as high as 102°F). The rash began to fade after about 36 hours, and had completely disappeared at the end of three days. All the patients had very offensive breath, but perfectly clean throats and tongues, and most of them vomited once or twice at the onset of the illness. There was no enlargement of lymphatic glands, no watering of the eyes and, indeed, no other symptoms. One of the children had the rise of temperature and vomiting, without the rash. Eight of these patients were believed to have had measles at some time previously in their lives.

## IV. Diphtheria Immunisation.

The practice of sending a birthday card on each child's first birthday pointing out the value of immunisation against diphtheria was continued throughout the year. Publicity was continued, as in previous years, by means of posters, leaflets and slides shown at local cinemas.

The following table shows the progress of immunisation against diphtheria :—

	Immunisation completed during 1945.	
	Under 5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.
Number of children ... ..	472	161
Percentage of children in each of the two age groups ... ..	17.0%	3.3%

## V. Maternity and Child Welfare.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION.—Accommodation is provided for normal confinements at Allandale Maternity Home, while abnormal cases are admitted to the Maternity Ward of the General Hospital.

The Council has an arrangement whereby an Obstetric Consultant can be called in by any doctor in respect of a case of abnormal pregnancy or labour.



The following table shows the admissions to maternity beds at Allandale and the General Hospital :—

	Number of Beds.	Number of Patients admitted during 1945.
Allandale... ..	13	247
General Hospital Maternity Ward ... ..	5 (available to the Borough Council)	49

HEALTH VISITING.—The following table shows the work of the Health Visitors during the year :—

	Infants under 1 year.			Children 1—5 yrs.	Ante-natal.			Child Life Protection Visits.
	First Visits.	Other Visits.	Total.		First Visits.	Other Visits.	Total.	
Residents ...	656	2,677	3,333	6,593	266	396	662	512
Evacuees ...	7	69	76	194	7	10	17	—

Ante-Natal Clinics were held at The Church Institute, The Boulevard on Tuesdays at 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 10.0 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Infant Welfare Clinics were held at The Church Institute, The Boulevard, on Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. and Fridays at 11.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon.

Also at the Congregational Schoolroom, Moorland Road, Thursdays, 2.30 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.

Also at the Baptist Church Hall, Baytree Road, Wednesdays, 2.30 p.m. to 4.0. p.m.

The following table summarises the work done during the year :—

#### BOULEVARD CENTRE.

##### INFANT WELFARE.

Total number of children who first attended during 1945 :

(a) Under 1 year ... ..	251
(b) Over 1 year ... ..	79
Total attendances ... ..	4,534

##### ANTE-NATAL.

Weston mothers (excluding 39 out of district) ...	283
Number of attendances ... ..	1,675
POST-NATAL ... ..	16

## MOORLAND ROAD CLINIC.

Children who first attended during 1945 :

(a) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	144
(b) Over 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	55
Total attendances ..	..	...	...	...	...	2,821

## BAYTREE ROAD CLINIC.

Children who first attended during 1945 :

(a) Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	129
(b) Over 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	103
Total attendances ...	...	...	...	...	...	3,518

Total number of children attending three Clinics under

one year on December 31st, 1945	...	...	...	524
Total number under 5 years on December 31st, 1945	...	...	...	1,611

## SPECIAL CLINICS AND WELFARE PROVISIONS.

Attendance of children under 5 at Dental Clinic	...	...	16
Mothers who attended Dental Clinic	...	...	86
Number of patients provided with dentures	...	...	16

DENTAL TREATMENT.	Mothers.		Children.	
	Weston.	Evacuees.	Weston.	Evacuees.
Extractions	224	16	38	—
Fillings	44	1	6	—
Dentures : Upper	18	3	—	—
Lower	14	1	—	—
Scalings	7	1	—	—
Gum Treatment	2	—	—	—
Anæsthetics : Local	7	2	1	—
Ethyl Chlor.	—	—	10	—
N20x02	57	4	—	—
Patients seen	79	7	16	—
Repairs to Dentures	—	—	—	—

Number of children referred for orthopædic X-Ray	...	7
Number of children under 5 referred to Orthopædic Clinic	...	49
Number of patients provided with orthopædic appliances	...	4
Number of patients admitted to Bath Orthopædic Hospital	...	Nil
Number of children referred to Massage Clinic (new cases)	...	14
Number of children referred to Artificial Sunlight Clinic	...	50
Cases where special nourishment was supplied	...	—

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, ETC.—Three cases of ophthalmia neonatorum occurred during the year.

During the year 15 cases of children under five years of age were referred to the County Oculist on account of defective vision or squint.

HOME HELP SCHEME.—The Home Help scheme instituted in 1943 continued in operation, but was still greatly handicapped by a shortage of suitable women prepared to act as Home Helps.

#### CHILD LIFE PROTECTION—POSITION ON DEC. 31ST, 1945.

Number of Foster Mothers on Register	...	...	...	20
Number of Foster Mothers who have children	...	...	...	11
Number of Foster Children	...	...	...	25
Number cared for without payment	...	...	...	2

It will be seen that all the registered Foster Mothers do not, in point of fact, take charge of children, and this, of course, is entirely a matter for themselves, registration merely being the Council's approval for their taking children for payment if they so desire. The Foster Mother herself decides whether she is able or willing to make arrangements, which she regards as satisfactory, with some person who requires to have her children looked after. Each year, however, the register is revised, and any woman who is not caring for children is approached to see if she is likely to do so in the near future, or if in the circumstances, registration should be withdrawn from her.

It will also be seen from the table that some Foster Mothers care for more than one child. The numbers are swollen in this respect by the inclusion of a Home in the town, where ten children under the age of nine are cared for. As this is a charitable institution run by the Church of England, it is doubtful whether, in law, we have any obligation, or even right, to supervise these children, but we do so by amicable arrangement between ourselves and the authorities of the Home.

The following table shows the visits paid each month during 1945 in connection with Child Life Protection :—

January	...	...	...	35
February	...	...	...	58
March	...	...	...	28
April	...	...	...	59
May	...	...	...	27
June	...	...	...	48
July	...	...	...	54
August	...	...	...	31
September	...	...	...	50
October	...	...	...	47
November	...	...	...	42
December	...	...	...	33
Total	...	...	...	<u>512</u>
Average	...	...	...	43 visits per month



**THE CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.**—The problem of illegitimacy has not been so great in Weston-super-Mare as to justify elaborate provisions being made to deal with it. The Weston-super-Mare Moral Welfare Society employ an experienced Moral Welfare worker who maintains a close liaison with the Council's Health Visitors. Whenever an expectant mother of an illegitimate child is discovered she is referred to this Society.

**THE CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.**—Arrangements have been made for doctors and midwives, in giving notification of births to the Medical Officer of Health, to include additional information in the case of a premature birth or in any case where the child weighs 5½lbs. or less. The Department of Public Health has available for loan in special cases hot water bottles, electric blanket pads, and a special cot. Home Helps are also provided as far as the shortage of suitable women permits.

## VI. War-time Nurseries.

The following table shows the work of the nurseries :—

Nursery.	Average Daily Attendance.
Neva Road (full time) ... ..	33
Beaconsfield Road (full time) ... ..	25
The Good Shepherd Hall (part time) ... ..	19

## VII. Sanitary Work.

### CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF  
THE BOROUGH OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1945. Mr. Bladon retired and I commenced duties on the 1st July, 1945. In anticipation of Mr. Bladon's retirement the Committee considered at an early date, the appointment of a successor, and I had the privilege of having a few months with Mr. Bladon, thereby having the advantage of an accumulated experience relating to the local conditions and the peculiar



needs of the district, and thereby provide for a continuity and improvement of the departmental work without a break. I extend my thanks for such knowledge.

There was the usual difficulty, of obtaining the necessary labour and material which has had a cumulative effect on housing dilapidations.

A serious effort will be made during the coming year, as far as conditions will permit, to deal with this very serious feature.

It is also proposed to make the necessary surveys and preparations to deal with unfit houses and clearance areas. In connection with this matter, it will be impracticable to make complete departmental plans until the forms of Housing Survey and relevant instructions have been received from the Ministry of Health.

It gives me pleasure to express my thanks for the valuable help I have received from the late Chief Inspector, and also I am deeply indebted to all members of the staff for their loyalty and support.

COURT AND STATUTORY PROCEEDINGS.

There were no Court Proceedings taken during the year.

Statutory notices served                   ...                   ...                   4

HOUSING.

One house was repaired under statutory notice and 106 after informal action.

Far too many houses which were unfit for human habitation are still being used for such purposes, and in addition to sanitary defects, are in many cases overcrowded. The explanation is obvious, but it is of vital importance that the Council should embark on a bold housing policy with the minimum of delay, and so remove the potential danger to health which is aggravated month by month.

The department is working on Clearance Areas, and hope to have some of these cleared in the near future.

VERMIN INFESTATION.

The following action was taken :—

Treatments—	Primary	...	...	...	33
„	Secondary	...	...	...	18
„	Preventive	...	...	...	3
„	to rooms	...	...	...	87

The methods of treatment used for disinfestation are :—  
(1) Ris ; (2) Killgercide ; (3) Zaldecide ; (4) the use of fumigants in conjunction with the above preparations.

## OVERCROWDING.

Housing accommodation has been heavily taxed. Many houses have been sub-let, and constant changing conditions have made it difficult to keep in touch with all cases that have arisen, and every effort on the part of the Health and Housing Departments have been made to deal with bad cases of overcrowding which have increased on the return of men demobilised from H.M. Forces.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Two complaints were received during year. These have been dealt with and it is hoped that there will be no recurrence of this trouble.

## RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The local campaign against the brown rat has now become somewhat established inasmuch as the public are now co-operating more freely than hitherto, due no doubt to the extensive propaganda distributed and broadcast nationally by the Ministry of Food. The Borough of Weston-super-Mare is lightly infested as a whole and certain premises receive regular routine inspections for rat infestation, particular attention being paid to producers and retailers of food.

All farms, piggeries, and smallholdings within the Borough of Weston-super-Mare receive regular inspections, and some twenty-three such premises are at present under contract with the Somerset War Agricultural Executive Committee for rat treatment over a period of twelve months.

Your Refuse Tips are treated on a quarterly basis and the infestation has been reduced to a very low level.

The proposed sewer treatment has been unavoidably postponed owing to labour difficulties, but will no doubt be carried out in the immediate future.

Ministry of Food Methods of Treatment have been used in all treatments and a high measure of success attained thereby.

## FACTORIES, SHOPS, ETC.

There are on the register 136 power factories and 86 non-power factories. Routine notices were served twice yearly for the lime-washing and cleansing of bakehouses, and the works were carried out.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.	No. of Inspection.	Written Notices.
Factories with mechanical power ... ..	274	86
Factories without mechanical power ... ..	32	10
TOTAL ... ..	306	96

	Defects Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.
Want of cleanliness ... ..	96	96	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ... ..	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ... ..	—	—	—
Drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences—			
Insufficient ... ..	1	1	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	2	2	—

#### SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Sanitary conveniencies provided... ..	1
Washing facilities provided ... ..	1

#### HOLIDAY CAMPING GROUNDS.

The number of camps licensed during the year was ten.

The conditions of licensing were reviewed and will be strictly enforced during the forthcoming year.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are eight fish friers in the Borough. A gut scrapers' business is carried on at the Public Abattoir, and a salvage factory is established at Rickett's Lane, Worle.

#### SUMMARY OF VISITS

by Sanitary Inspector's Staff (not including Health Visitors).

Total number of inspections and visits ... ..	6,896
Nuisances or complaints ... ..	789
Work ordered ... ..	987
Work in progress ... ..	364
Drainage tests visits :—	
Smoke tests at existing buildings ... ..	6
Water tests at existing buildings ... ..	60
Inspection of concrete in connection with drains ... ..	28



Dwelling houses :—

Number inspected under Public Health, 1936	...	374
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	758
Houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulation, 1936	... ..	20
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	32
Number of housing inspections ( <i>re</i> miscellaneous matters)	... ..	5
Housing inspections <i>re</i> infectious diseases	... ..	130
Number of houses inspected <i>re</i> vermin	... ..	50
Number of houses re-inspected <i>re</i> vermin	... ..	111
Number of houses inspected <i>re</i> overcrowding	...	11
Number of houses re-inspected <i>re</i> overcrowding	...	15
Number of re-inspections after service of notices P.H.A., 1936	... ..	7
Interviews with agents, owners, contractors, etc.	...	819
Factory inspection—Power	... ..	274
Non-power	... ..	32
Bakehouses	... ..	99
Shops Act inspections	... ..	8
Cowsheds and farm inspections	... ..	257
Dairies and milkshops inspections	... ..	178
Ice cream shops and premises inspected	... ..	7
Butchers' shops and Abattoir inspections	... ..	779
Food shops and food premises	... ..	613
Offensive trades inspections	... ..	9
Tents, vans and sheds inspections	... ..	93
Inspections <i>re</i> manure pits	... ..	20
Inspections of premises where animals are kept	...	33
Inspections of public and private refuse tips	... ..	23
Refuse bin inspections	... ..	18
Smoke abatement inspections	... ..	4
Public buildings inspections (including licensed amusement premises)	... ..	44
Rat and mice infestation inspections	... ..	1,381
Cesspool inspections	... ..	38
Miscellaneous visits	... ..	1,941
Petrol store inspections	... ..	89
Milk Samples taken	... ..	155
Water Samples taken	... ..	19
Swimming Bath Samples taken	... ..	15

WORK DONE.

Houses repaired (Housing and Public Health Acts)	...	206
Houses repaired formally under Housing Acts	...	1
Houses cleansed and decorated	... ..	3
Rooms repaired	... ..	37



Roofs repaired or stripped and retiled or reslated ...	47
Floors relaid or repaired ... ..	115
Skirtings, etc., renewed or repaired ... ..	3
Fire grates renewed or repaired ... ..	14
Doors repaired or new ones fixed ... ..	15
Stairs renewed or repaired ... ..	1
Windows renewed or repaired ... ..	12
Ventilations and/or lighting improved ... ..	1
Plastering of walls and/or ceilings repaired or stripped	16
Rain water spouting or guttering repaired or renewed	28
Rain water cisterns repaired, abolished or new fixed	8
Walls pointed and repaired or rendered ... ..	5
External plaster repaired or re-rendered ... ..	4
Chimney stacks and flues repaired or rebuilt ... ..	2
Sanitary sinks provided ... ..	7
Yards paved, repaired or relaid ... ..	6
Tenants required to amend conditions ... ..	20
Houses, etc., treated for primary infestation or for precautionary purposes ... ..	56
Rooms, etc., treated for primary infestation or for precautionary purposes ... ..	156
Refuse bins provided ... ..	20

Factory and Workshops : See page 17 Factory and  
Workshops Report.

Dairies and Cowsheds :—

New Registrations ... ..	9
Approaches improved ... ..	2
Sanitary and structural conditions improved ...	3
Trade premises :—Sanitary conditions improved ...	3
Accumulations of manure or offensive matter removed	4
Animals and poultry :—Nuisances abated ... ..	9
Rats and mice infestation :—Premises dealt with ...	234

Drainage :—

Drains relaid at existing houses ... ..	8
Drains cleared and cleansed or repaired ... ..	76
Drains trapped and properly ventilated ... ..	9
Premises supplied with additional drainage ... ..	15
Additional drains provided ... ..	20
New drain inspection chambers provided ... ..	18
Premises supplied with additional water closets ...	6
Additional water closets provided ... ..	4
Water closets or urinals repaired or reconstructed ...	42
New water closet pedestals fixed ... ..	31
New water closet flushing cisterns fixed ... ..	8
W.C. cisterns repaired ... ..	16
New baths fixed ... ..	5

New lavatory basins fixed	...	...	...	...	8
Soil pipes and drain ventilators repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Soil pipes and drain ventilators fixed	...	...	...	...	8
Waste pipes fixed, repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	22
Nuisances from overflowing cesspools abated	...	...	...	...	8
Accumulations of rubbish removed	...	...	...	...	37
Smoke or fumes :—Nuisances abated or complaints dealt with	...	...	...	...	2
Tents and Vans :—Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	3
Swine kept in contravention	...	...	...	...	4
Cafes :—Insufficient w.c. accommodation	...	...	...	...	1
Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	1
Static water tanks emptied	...	...	...	...	4
Infectious Disease Disinfections, etc. :—					Rooms. Articles.
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	41 506
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2 23
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	35 283
Non-notifiable	...	...	...	...	47 1,171
Scabies	...	...	...	...	1 80
Measles	...	...	...	...	10 109
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	6 93
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1 18
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2 —
Tropical Ringworm	...	...	...	...	— 49
Vermin	...	...	...	...	156 86
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	— 7
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	...	2 43
				303	2,468

## DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

### PARTICULARS OF REGISTER.

Number of producers on the Register	...	...	...	24
Number of distributors, divided as follows :—				
(including 16 who trade from outside the Borough)				
A. Distributors only	...	...	...	47
B. Distributors who are also producers	...	...	...	13
(A producer is only included as a distributor if he definitely makes a business of selling his milk by retail to individual customers.)				
Number of licences given to Graded Milk Distributors :—				
Supplementary Certified Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	2
Supplementary Pasteurised	...	...	...	1
There are two accredited milk producers in the district.				

For the purpose of control, the following samples were submitted to the County Bacteriologist for his report :—

Herd milk for the presence of T.B.	...	...	...	39
(T.B. not present 39)				
Pasteurised (satisfactory 7, not satisfactory 2)	...			9
Bacterial examination (good 52, fair 14, poor 10,				
Very poor 2, bad 2, very bad 12)	...	...		92

## MEAT AND FOOD CONTROL.

The number of premises on the register for the preparation of pickled, preserved, etc. meats is 44.

## PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

There has been no alteration in the area supplied from the Public Abattoir. The practice to notify the Regional Veterinary Officer of cases where a tubercular condition of the udder is found enables the Veterinary Officer to more effectively carry out the procedure under the Tuberculosis Order, and to follow up cases, where failure to notify have taken place.

The Representatives of the Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Fisheries are satisfied with the co-operation of your officers at the Public Abattoir and Cattle Market, and express same in no uncertain terms from time to time.

The following salvage was handed on to the Ministry of Food's agents for residual recovery purposes :—

		Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Condemned meat	... ..	126	2	1	2
Non-edible offals, etc.	... ..	368	15	1	4
TOTAL		494	17	2	6

## ANIMALS KILLED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIRS.

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Pigs ...	3,964	3,653	6,021	4,875	1,026	630	445	1,062
Sheep	10,696	12,919	47,238	46,089	50,384	41,115	45,626	40,077
Calves	835	857	3,448	5,977	7,839	10,336	12,143	8,607
Beasts	1,183	1,365	7,252	10,215	7,856	10,071	10,814	9,724

Difference from the year 1944 :—

Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	All Animals.
—1,090	—3,536	—5,549	+617	—9,558



The income from slaughtering charges, tolls and rentals was as follows :—

1940	...	...	...	...	...	£3,718	17	0
1941	...	...	...	...	...	£4,107	9	2
1942	...	...	...	...	...	£3,859	11	4
1943	...	...	...	...	...	£4,489	11	1
1944	...	...	...	...	...	£4,789	11	2
1945, including rentals and tolls as								
{ below						£4,277	4	11
{ Rentals Abattoir						£217	0	0
{ Rentals Cattle Market						£193	3	4
{ Market Tolls						£59	2	11

#### CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ... ..	9,724	8,607	40,077	1,062
Number inspected ... ..	9,724	8,607	40,077	1,062
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.				
Whole carcasses condemned	72	9	28	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,662	48	924	61
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis ... ..	17·8%	·06%	2·4%	6·1%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.				
Whole carcasses condemned	227	1	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3,582	6	—	187
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	39·1%	·08%	—	17·8%



1945. DISEASED OR INJURED MEAT CONDEMNED AT THE ABATTOIR.

[illegible]

DISEASED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The total weight of diseased, unsound or injured meat and organs condemned was :—

Tuberculosis :—

	Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
<b>Beef</b> and organs, including 227 carcasses and 142 quarters ... ..	92	0	0	5				
<b>Pigs</b> and organs, including 3 carcasses ... ..	1	1	3	4				
<b>Veal</b> , 1 carcase ... ..			2	6				

Total weight of tuber- culous meat ... ..					93	2	1	15
Non-Tuberculous Meat :—								
<b>Beef</b> and organs ... ..	30	15	0	7				
<b>Pigs</b> and organs (28 carcasses) ... ..		7	2	23				
<b>Sheep</b> and <b>Lambs</b> ... ..	1	12	3	14				
<b>Veal</b> ... ..		4	0	27				

Total weight of non- tuberculous meat ... ..					32	19	3	15
-------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	----	----	---	----

Total weight of all con- demned meat ... ..					126	2	1	2
------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	-----	---	---	---

One private pig was brought in by the owner to be slaughtered and used for own consumption, and was found to be effected with generalised tuberculosis and was condemned.

UN SOUND FOODS CONDEMNED IN THE TOWN.

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs
<b>Meat.</b> —Beef, Pork, Lamb or Mutton ...	0	1	1	20
<b>Fish.</b> —various ... ..	1	5	1	14
<b>Bacon</b> ... ..	0	0	1	26
<b>Butter Beans</b> ... ..	0	1	0	0
	1	8	1	4

Canned Goods.

Meat, various ... ..	2,260	cans.
Fish „ ... ..	287	„
Vegetables ... ..	315	„
Milk ... ..	304	„
Soups ... ..	125	„

Jams	...	...	...	...	36	cans
Fruits	...	...	...	...	33	„
Syrup	...	...	...	...	5	„
Cod Liver Oil and Malt	...	...	...	...	1	„
Egg substitute	...	...	...	...	347	„
Sauce	...	...	...	...	1	jar
Pickles	...	...	...	...	3	jars
Paste	...	...	...	...	3	„
Pea Nut Butter	...	...	...	...	1	jar
Coffee	...	...	...	...	1	bottle
Wheat Flakes	...	...	...	...	1	pkt.
Oats	...	...	...	...	1	„
Bran	...	...	...	...	1	„
Pudding Mixture (various)	...	...	...	...	637	pkts.
Lard...	...	...	...	...	9½	lbs.
Sweets	...	...	...	...	28	„
Green Peas	...	...	...	...	12	„
Cucumber	...	...	...	...	5	cwt.
Cake...	...	...	...	...	6	lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	235¾	„
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	26	„
Tea ...	...	...	...	...	10	oz.
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...	379	
Eggs...	...	...	...	...	210	
Cakes	...	...	...	...	52	
Meat Pies	...	...	...	...	3	
Pasties	...	...	...	...	51	
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	50	
Sausage Rolls	...	...	...	...	157	

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Mr. F. W. Marston, Somerset County Food and Drugs Inspector, has kindly supplied the following statement of the samples of foods, drugs and drinks taken for analysis by the Public Analyst during 1945 :—

	Sample taken			Genuine		Adulterated.
	44 Milk	...	...	44	...	—
Formal	{ 3 Butter	...	...	3	...	—
	{ 1 Lard	...	...	1	...	—
	{ 1 Sausage	...	...	1	...	—
	{ 2 Cooked Meat	...	...	2	...	—
	{ 2 Jams	...	...	2	...	—
Informal	{ 1 Cocoa	...	...	1	...	—
	{ 2 Sugar Confectionery	...	...	2	...	—
	{ 2 Chocolate	...	...	2	...	—
	{ 2 Tincture of Iodine	...	...	2	...	—
	{ 1 Mercury Ointment	...	...	1	...	—
	{ 1 Meat Paste	...	...	1	...	—



It gives me pleasure to express my sincere thanks for the valued help I have received throughout the year from the Chairman of the Health Committee and particularly to Dr. Eastwood whose counsel at all time has been much appreciated. I am also indebted to all members of the staff for their loyalty and support throughout the year.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

I. A. STEPHENSON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

## VIII. Meteorology.

The following table summarises the meteorological observations for the year 1945. The observations are taken at Clarence Park and the Town Hall.

Monthly Results of Climatological Observations, 1945.

1945. MONTH.	AIR TEMPERATURES.							Mean Relative Humidity (9 a.m.).	Mean Amount of Cloud (9 a.m.).	RADIATION.  Min. on Grass (means).	RAIN.		SUN.  Number of Hours.	Mean Barometer Reading (9 a.m.).
	MEANS (Degrees).					EXTREMES.					Amount. Inches.	No. of Days with .04 ins. or more.		
	9 a.m.	Min.	Max.	Range.	Mean.	Min.	Max.							
January	35.3	30.9	40.2	9.3	40.5	12.7°	51.0°	7.8	28.7	2.59	11	66.9	29.994	
February	44.2	40.1	52.0	11.9	46.05	30.1°	62.6°	8.5	38.2	2.83	13	63.7	30.110	
March	47.1	40.3	53.7	13.4	47.0	27.1°	68.6°	6.5	36.7	.86	5	141.4	30.317	
April	51.7	44.7	60.7	16.0	52.7	34.4°	76.0°	6.7	41.3	.82	6	216.3	30.066	
May	55.8	47.9	62.4	14.5	56.15	30.2°	79.0°	7.6	45.1	4.07	17	194.6	29.843	
June	60.2	53.2	64.8	11.6	59.0	46.9°	81.0°	7.6	50.4	3.91	16	184.6	30.020	
July	63.6	56.1	69.2	13.1	62.6	49.1°	80.4°	7.3	52.8	2.22	6	174.3	29.961	
August	62.6	56.2	68.8	12.6	62.5	49.9°	76.9°	7.5	53.6	2.11	12	168.7	29.870	
September	60.1	54.3	65.6	11.3	59.95	42.9°	74.8°	8.0	51.8	2.52	11	87.4	29.962	
October	54.8	48.8	62.1	13.3	55.4	39.8°	76.6°	8.1	44.2	4.29	8	108.8	30.034	
November	46.9	42.7	51.7	9.0	47.2	30.8°	60.1°	8.8	38.5	.64	6	42.9	30.060	
December	43.6	40.7	50.0	9.3	45.3	28.6°	56.1°	8.3	38.7	5.26	17	42.9	29.807	
Means and Totals	52.1	46.3	58.4	12.9	52.8	35.2°	69.8°	8.1	43.3	32.12	128	1,492.5	30.005	







